Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota
Office of the Governor

Whereas, The peanut allergy is an immune system disorder where chemicals called histamines inappropriately attack the body; and,

Whereas, The peanut allergy is the deadliest of the 8 food allergies, causing the most fatal and near fatal anaphylactic reactions in the United States - 100 to 150 deaths and roughly 30,000 emergency room visits each year; and,

Whereas, Anaphylaxis is a serious allergic reaction that is rapid in onset and can lead to death within minutes. An epi-pen contains life-saving epinephrine, and if given early, can help save the life of a peanut allergic individual; and,

Whereas, Symptoms of a peanut reaction can affect a person's respiratory system, gastrointestinal tract, cardiovascular system, and skin. Trace amounts of the peanut protein can trigger life threatening reactions in allergic individuals; and,

Whereas, There is no cure for the peanut allergy; the only treatment is strict avoidance of the food; and,

Whereas, Education is key in keeping peanut allergic individuals safe and providing them an inclusive, non-discriminatory environment; and,

Whereas, The Food Allergy & Anaphylaxis Network is a national, nonprofit organization dedicated to raising awareness about food allergy and anaphylaxis:

Now, Therefore, I, Dennis Daugaard, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim September 24-30, 2012, as

PEANUT ALLERGY AWARENESS WEEK

in South Dakota.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Fifth Day of September in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Twelve.

Dennis Daugaard, Governor

Attest:

Jason M. Gant, Secretary of State